

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 AEC-11 ACDA-19 OMB-01 SCI-06 NSF-04 SS-20

NSC-07 IO-14 DRC-01 /179 W

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R 292030Z MAY 74

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5961

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 4034

USNMR SHAPE

USDOCOSOUTH

USLOSACLANT

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY RAWALPINDI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 2981

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, PARM, NCAP, IN

SUBJECT: ALLIED ASSESSMENT OF INDIAN NUCLEAR TEST

REF: USNATO 2865 NOTAL

SUMMARY: CANDIAN REP IN POLADS MEETING CIRCULATED OUTLINE FOR ALLIED ASSESSMENT OF CONSEQUENCES OF INDIAN NUCLEAR TEST, AND UK PROMISED AN INPUT. OTHERS REPORTED ON REACTIONS OF JAPANESE AND PAKISTANIS. ACTION REQUESTED: U.S. CONTRIBUTION COVERING POSSIBILITY OF SOVIET KNOWLEDGE OR INVOLVEMENT IN INDIAN PLANS WOULD BE WELCOME. END SUMMARY

1. IN MAY 28 POLADS MEETING, CHAIRMAN RECALLED THAT PERMREPS IN INFORMAL LUNCH HAD COMMISSIONED ALLIED REVIEW OF CONSEQUENCES OF CONFIDENTIAL

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INDIAN NUCLEAR TEST. CANADIAN REP INTRODUCED "SUGGESTED OUTLINE FOR POLITICAL ASSESSMENT OF INDIAN NUCLEAR EXPLOSION." CANADIAN TEXT IS AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT

INDIA - STATEMENTS RE TEST

- MOTIVATION FOR TEST
- ESTIMATED COST OF TEST
- LIKELY SOURCE OR SOURCES OF PLUTONIUM USED IN TEST;  
ABILITY TO PRODUCE PLUTONIUM AND IN WHAT QUANTITIES  
PER ANNUM

REACTIONS TO TEST

- IN AREA, ESPECIALLY FROM PAKISTAN
- ON PART OF USSR AND EASTERN EUROPE/CHINA
- ON PART OF NUCLEAR COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN INDIAN  
NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENT
- ON PART OF NUCLEAR
- ON PART OF "NEAR-NUCLEARS"
- GENERAL

IMPLICATIONS FOR NATO

MILITARY, SECURITY AND BALANCE OF POWER CONSIDERATIONS:

(I) REGIONAL BALANCE OF POWER

- USA, USSR AND CHINESE INTERESTS

(II) POSSIBLE REGIONAL OR GLOBAL DESTABILIZING FACTS OF  
DECISIONS ON PART OF CERTAIN OTHER COUNTRIES (ISRAEL,  
EGYPT, SOUTH AFRICA, BRAZIL, ETC) TO IMITATE INDIA'S  
EXAMPLE

DISARMAMENT

- PROSPECTS FOR NPT AND CTB

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- SECURITY OF INFORMATION AND MATERIALS:

- (I) WILLINGNESS OF INDIA TO EXCHANGE THESE FOR ECONOMIC  
AND POLITICAL BENEFITS; DANGERS OF THESE FALLING  
INTO HANDS OF TERRORIST GROUPS

END TEXT

2. CANADIAN REP SAID INDIANS HAD NOT YET ANSWERED CANADIAN  
QUESTIONS ABOUT SOURCE OF PLUTONIUM FOR EXPLOSION. OTTAWA DID NOT  
BELIEVE PLUTONIUM HAD COME DIRECTLY FROM CANADA. MOST PROBABLE  
SOURCE WAS "CIRUS" REACTOR BUILD BY CANADA UNDER COLOMBO PLAN,  
WHERE INDIANS HAD REFUSED TO ACCEPT SAFEGUARDS. ADDITIONAL

PLUTONIUM MIGHT HAVE COME FROM A SECOND SOURCE, BUT IT WAS UNLIKELY THAT ANY PLUTONIUM FROM CANADIAN-DESIGNED "RAPP" REACTOR WAS INVOLVED. IN RECENT DEMARCHES TO INDIANS, CANADIANS HAVE CITED THEIR CONCERN ABOUT AFFECT ON NPT ACCESSION AND OBSERVANCE BY OTHER STATES.

3. ITALIAN REP REPORTED ON PAKISTANA AND JAPANESE REACTIONS. PAKISTANIS HAD EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT CANADIAN AID TO INDIA, CLAIMING THAT EXPLOSIVE MATERIAL WAS PRODUCED IN "CANADIAN LABORATORIES." JAPANESE DID NOT BELIEVE INDIAN CLAIM THAT EXPLOSION WAS FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES, BUT RATHER ATTRIBUTED IT TO "POLITICAL AND MILITARY" MOTIVES. JAPANESE HAD CITED SOVIET LINKS WITH INDIA AND EXPRESSED FEAR THAT INDIAN ACCESSION TO NUCLEAR CLUB COULD CHANGE POWER BALANCE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. HOWEVER, ASSESSMENT OF ITALIAN AMBASSADOR IN TOKYO WAS THAT FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL, STRATEGIC AND POLITICAL REASONS, JAPANESE WILL NOT ACQUIRE NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

4. NETHERLANDS REP WAS MORE PESSIMISTIC ABOUT EFFECT OF INDIAN EXPLOSION ON JAPANESE ATTITUDES. HE ASKED FOR VIEWS OF OTHER ALLIES WHETHER THE SOVIETS HAD BEEN AWARE OF INDIAN INTENTIONS BEFORE EXPLOSION AND WHETHER THEY HAD ACQUIESCED IN INDIAN PLANS. IF THEY HAD, RESULTS COULD BE SERIOUS. ITALIAN REP ADDED TO EARLIER REPORT THAT PAKISTANIS BELIEVED THAT SOVIETS WERE FULLY AWARE OF INDIAN PLANS.

5. UK PROMISED TO CIRCULATE CONTRIBUTION TO ANALYSIS LATER IN WEEK, AND CANADIAN REP INTENDS TO PROVIDE MATERIAL TO FILL IN OUTLINE.

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6. ACTION REQUESTED: AS NOTED REFTTEL, WASHINGTON CONTRIBUTION TO POLADS ANALYSIS WOULD BE WELCOME. IN PARTICULAR, WE BELIEVE U.S. SHOULD ATTEMPT TO PROVIDE ANSWER TO NETHERLANDS QUESTION RE SOVIET COMPLICITY. INDIAN TEST WILL PROBABLY BE ON POLADS AGENDA FOR JUNE 4.  
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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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**TAGS:** PFOR, NATO, PARM, NCAP, IN  
**To:** STATE  
SECDEF INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS  
USNMR SHAPE  
USDOCOSOUTH  
USLOSACLANT  
MOSCOW  
NEW DELHI

RAWALPINDI

TOKYO

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